

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

The undersigned greatly appreciates the courtesies extended by Examiners Anna Gofman and Elizabeth Cole during the personal interview with the inventor Andrew Park at the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on March 28, 2006. During the interview, a proposal was made to amend independent Claims 1, 11, and 12 to further define the fiber-stabilizing scrim as a heat-activated fibrous web.

Claims 1-18 in the case are pending. These claims stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Park (US 5,935,678) in view of Pilato (US 5,190,802).

With regard to the art cited, Mr. Park's prior patent ('678) describes a ballistic laminate structure comprising cross-plyed unifabrics. The unifabrics are bonded together through heat and pressure using a thin polymeric film. Park '678 does not disclose, teach or suggest the use of a heat-activated fibrous scrim as a means of carrying and thermally bonding to the uni-directionally oriented fiber bundles. Pilato discloses a ballistic resistant laminate with plies of woven fabric which are interleaved with *resin-coated non-woven scrim prepreg*. The added resin (and not the scrim itself) bonds the plies together when compressed. Pilato concedes that the scrim fibers are "not narrowly critical" (col. 2, ln. 48), and lists materials used in the fabrication of diapers and disposable hospital attire as examples of scrims applicable in the laminate structure. Unlike Pilato, the fiber-stabilizing scrim of the present composite comprises *heat-activated fibers* which operate to thermally bond the laminate structure together, and which do not require additional resins which may lessen the overall ballistic performance of the product.

For all these reasons discussed above, Applicant submits that all of the claims in the case are now in condition for allowance. Such action is therefore respectfully requested at an early date. If the Examiner believes that issues remain for discussion, she is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number indicated below.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of a large, stylized 'J' followed by several loops and a final flourish.

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